(c) and (d) The finalisation of counter affidavit in the above Court case at Bombay High Court is still in the process stage and is being expedited.

Demand and supply of edible oil

@2092. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the demand and supply of edible oils in the country during last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that the gap between demand and supply is widening;

(c) if so, the quantity of edible oil imported and the value thereof;

(d) the steps taken to achieve self-sufficiency in oil-seeds during the Seventh Plan period; and

(e) the details of the programmes launched under the Technology Mission on oilseeds and the progress made so for?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLY AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) The demand and supply of edible oils in the country during the last three years are as under:—

(Qty. in lakh MTs)

Oil-Year (Nov-Oct)	Indigenous production of edible oils	Demand as per Planning Commission
1988-89	49·50	55·34
1989-90	47·22	57·72
1990-91 (Estimated)	54.00	60·26

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The quantity of edible oil imported and the value thereof are as under:-

Oil-Year (Nov-Oct)	Imports of edible oils	Value (Rs. in crores)
	(in lakh MTs)	
1988-89	3.73	245.71
1989-90	6.07	323.32
1990-91	1.08	79.33

(d) and (e) The steps taken to achieve self-sufficiency in oilseeds/edible oils are:—

1. Two centrally sponsored schemes namely National Oilseeds Development Projects (NODP) and Oilseeds Production Thrust Project (OPTP) which were operating till 1989-90 have been merged during 1990-91 into a single scheme namely Oilseeds Production Programmes (OPP). This schemes essentially provides assistance to the States for production and distribution of quality seeds, plant protection measures including supply of plant protection chemicals and equipments and organising demonstration of advanced technology.
2. The oilseeds projects of the NDDB.
3. Setting up of a Technology Mission on Oilseeds established in May, 1986 for harnessing the best of production, processing and management technologies.
4. Better incentives to producers through fixation of minimum support prices of major oilseeds.
5. Intensification of research efforts for increasing the production of oilseeds.
6. Increasing the area under non-traditional oilseeds crops like soyabean

@*Previously Unstarred Questiton* 1506, *Transferred from the 6th December,* 1991.

and sunflower and exploitation of oilseeds of tree and forest origin, rice bran, etc.

7. Efforts for promoting oil palm cultivation and processing.

8. Setting up of necessary processing and infrastructural facilities to keep pace with the production programme of oilseeds.

9. Fiscal incentives in the form of excise rebate for use of certain non-conventional oils in the vanaspati so as to encourage increased exploitation of these sources of oils.

Use of defective weights and measures

2093. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is widespread use of defective weights and measures by traders in Todapur, Inderpuri and J.J. Colony (Inderpuri) and village Dasgarah in Delhi; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take against such traders in those areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) Delhi Administration have reported that since August, 1991 they have conducted a number of inspections/raids in Todapur, Inderpuri, J.J. Colony (Inderpuri) and village Dasgarah and four traders were found using defective weights and measures. Legal action has been initiated against these traders..

Import of palm oil

2094. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the approximate amount of import bill paid annually on import of palm oil;

(b) whether there is a great scope for increasing the production of palm oil in the country; and

(c) if so, the steps taken in this behalf ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) The CIF value of the import of edible oil made during the last three years has been as under:—

Year (Financial)	CIF value (Rs. in crores)
1988-89	765.16
1989-90	203.60
1990-91	349.95

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Areas suitable for palm cultivation in the country have already been identified and possibility for exploring palm cultivation in the identified areas started. A number of schemes to take up oil palm cultivation during VIII Plan period, namely, setting up of nurseries and front-line demonstration and processing in Karnataka, Oil Palm Seed Garden in Andhra Pradesh, expansion of the capacity of the seed germination at CPCRI, Palode, were sanctioned in 1990-91. One project each for production of palm oil has been blished in Kerala and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

Import of edible oil

2095. SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have a proposal of importing edible oil;

(b) if so, how much foreign exchange is to be spent for this purpose;

(c) whether it is also a fact that oilseed growers do not want imports and have suggested that the solvent Extract Industry can bridge the gap between demand and supply; and

(d) if so, why Government are not exploiting its potential?